

is edge-modulated by using first and second carrier signals having a same frequency and different edge waveforms; generating duty signals from the read wobble signal; and comparing the duty signals to extract header information." The Applicants believe that these two methods are so closely related that evaluation of both sets of claims would not provide an undue burden upon the Examiner at this time in comparison with the additional expense and delay to Applicants in having to protect the additional subject matter recited by the Group d claims by filing a divisional application.

With regard to groups e and f, the Applicants submit that claims 20, 21, 28, and 29 of group e, and claims 22-24, and 30-32 of claim f are related to the claims of group d in that the recite apparatus and method claims that relate to the reproducing of header information from a wobble signal stored on an optical recording medium comprising, reading a single-frequency wobble signal having header information which is edge-modulated by using first and second carrier signals having a same frequency and different edge waveforms. However, wherein the claims of group d recite generating a duty cycle, the claims of group e recite detecting levels of the read wobble signal at a predetermined phase, and the claims of group f recite generating a differential signal. The Applicants submit that the claims of groups d, e, and f are so closely related that evaluation of the claims would not provide an undue burden upon the Examiner at this time in comparison with the additional expense and delay to Applicants in having to protect the additional subject matter recited filing multiple divisional applications.

III. Conclusion

Upon review of references involved in this field of technology, when considering the recitation of the claims in conjunction with all of the other various factors, it is believed that upon reconsideration of the Examiner's initial restriction requirement, all of the pending claims should be examined in the subject application.

In view of the foregoing amendments, arguments and remarks, all claims are deemed to be allowable and this application is believed to be in condition for allowance.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our deposit account number 19-3935.

Should any questions remain unresolved, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicants' attorney.

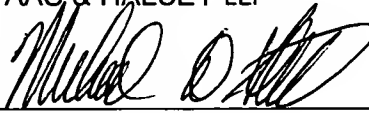
Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date:

5/24/04

By:



Michael D. Stein

Registration No. 37,240

1201 New York Ave, N.W., Ste. 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 434-1500
(202) 434-1501